**Rehabilitation of Child Labour in the Country**

1025. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fresh survey has been conducted on child labour;

(b) if so, the number of child labour in the country as per the recent survey; and

(c) the steps taken for the welfare and rehabilitation of these child labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) As per the directions of the Supreme Court dated 10.12.96 a survey on child labour was required to be conducted. The modalities for conducting survey was discussed in the State Labour Ministers Conference held on 22.1.97. It was decided in the Conference that in the first phase the survey would be carried out by the State Governments to identify such children working in all establishments in urban and semi-urban catchment areas and in hazardous occupations in rural areas. The detailed door to door survey will be conducted in the second phase. As per the available information 4,81,698 working children have been identified so far in the first phase of the survey.

(c) As per the directions of the Supreme Court, the employers employing children in hazardous occupations in contravention of the provision of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 must pay a compensation of Rs. 20,000/- for every child employed by them. The employer employing children in non-hazarous occupations are expected to provide education to the children employed by them in suitable institution at their own cost. Detailed guidelines have been sent to all the States/UT Governments for compliance of the directions of Supreme Court in relation to the rehabilitation of children withdrawn from hazardous and non-hazardous occupations. State Governments has already initiated several steps for compliance of the directions of the Supreme Court.

**Child Labour in Hazardous Industries**

1026. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of State Labour Ministers was held recently in New Delhi; if so, the details of discussions held;

(b) whether Government have received the census of child labour from the State; if so, the number of child labour identified at present; States-wise;

(c) what is the critieria for determining the hazardous or otherwise nature of industries/factories engaging child labour in the country;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is no uniform concept of hazardousness and it differes from State to State; and

(e) whether Government propose to notify a uniform list of industries/factories being hazardous for employing child labour; if so, by when and if not, the limitations therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) A conference of State Labour Ministers was held on 7-8th July, 1997 to review the progress in the implementation of the directives of the Supreme Court on child labour. The review of the implementation of the directives of Supreme Court revealed that the first phase of the survey on child labour in most of the States/UTs have been completed. The Child Labour Rehabilitation-cum-Welfare Fund is in the process of being constituted and in many cases employers of children have been issued notices for the compliance of the directives of the Supreme Court. The number of working children identified in the first phase of survey, state-wise as per the available information is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) to (e) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits employment of children in certain occupations and processes which are listed in the schedule to the Act. However, the concept of hazardousness has not been